

# TRADITIONAL CHAPELS IN ALABAMA

Our Lady of Lourdes  
Roman Catholic Chapel  
Montgomery, Alabama

St. Francis of Assisi  
Roman Catholic Chapel  
Cullman, Alabama

St. Pius V  
Roman Catholic Chapel  
Birmingham, Alabama

## SCHEDULE OF MASSES

10:30 A.M. - Rosary  
10:45 A.M. - Mass  
(ONLY on First Sunday  
of each month)

6:00 A.M. and 10:00 A.M.  
Every Sunday

6:00 A.M. - 8:00 A.M. - 7:00 P.M.  
Holy Days

9:10 A.M. - Rosary  
9:30 A.M. - Mass  
(EXCEPT on first  
Sunday of each month)

THE THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST  
August 30, 1998 - - - Green  
Mass of Sunday - - Gl. Cr. Pref. Trin.

Weekly Bulletin # 524

The motives inducing us to practice mortification are very many, indeed. They are as many as the days of the year - - and more.

In working to learn how to practice mortification we must first learn to hold FIRMLY to the truth that we are in a fallen condition - - that is, a state of disorder and deterioration. We are somewhat sensible of it. We have a working knowledge of our condition, but we do not comprehend it. In truth - we try to avoid too much talk about it.

Our whole nature is like a knotted trunk of a battered tree. We are distorted throughout by frivolous, dangerous and very often unchaste inclinations and impulses, which make the performance of good difficult to us. In too many cases our nature urges us on to what is evil. In reality we are disposed to sin. We know the right thing to do, but somehow that which is not the right thing to do is what ends up getting done. And what is more - WE DEFEND OUR ACTION! WE INDULGE IN RATIONALIZATION! WE JUSTIFY! WE ARGUE!

We are full of selfishness. We are full of pride and envy and jealousy and suspicion. Basically we are cowards because we fear the strength of our pride and envy and jealousy and suspicion, and we shy away from any attack on them. We are indolent - - full of inaction and indecision and because of that, we are satisfied to remain mediocre. We remain mediocre because we fail to use the energy required to turn ourselves in to something that manifests perfection. Sensuality and the love for creature comfort tarnishes everything we do. The love, the acclaim, the acceptance, the respect of those around us keep us in a state of nervous paralysis. We must have approval - no matter! - and human approval is far more important and overshadows the importance of the approval of a Just and Loving God. We are inordinately attached to the silliest things - THINGS - and we cannot bring ourselves to turn loose of them. And what about stability? Can it be said that we are stable? flighty perhaps? And does not our instability oftentimes architect a structure of insecurity around anyone who has to live with us or be around us?

The most cultured man, the most educated man, the most well-mannered man, the most active man in important social, economic and religious affairs is fully capable of becoming grievously mean and ignoble if the opportunity presents itself. With some, it does not take very much to cause them to "fly off the handle" and cause permanent hurt to anyone who has the misfortune of being around at the moment of rupture. Anyone of us is fully capable of becoming downright base if and when we fail to do violence to our fallen nature. When we give our evil passions free play, we may be easily led into some incredible wickedness. One keeps dangerous beasts behind bars and in cages, even if they are otherwise "tamed". A wild beast is a wild beast and will always be a wild beast and cannot ever be trusted completely and absolutely. One must stay on constant guard when around such a creature, and one cannot ever take his "tameness" for granted. Such a beast dwells in us, and that beast that is within us is always dangerous and is always ready to destroy and wound. It never loses its ability to hurt. And it never dies.

There is nothing so mean and low that a man is not capable of, if he be impelled by unbridled passions. The only help against unbridled passions is the grace of God working together with a genuine desire on our part for self-denial and self-control.